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WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION
International Bureau



9902006-7
IPQS

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification ⁶ : C12N 15/19, C07K 14/52, A61K 48/00, A01K 67/027, A61K 38/19, C12N 15/11		A1	(11) International Publication Number: WO 98/23748 ✓
			(43) International Publication Date: 4 June 1998 (04.06.98)
(21) International Application Number: PCT/EP96/05280 ✓		(81) Designated States: AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GE, HU, IL, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, (SG) SI, SK, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, ARIPO patent (KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).	
(22) International Filing Date: 29 November 1996 (29.11.96) ✓			
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NO PD 1 App. 2 invs.			
(54) Title: METHODS FOR PREVENTING GRAFT REJECTION IN TRANSPLANTATION AND FOR PRODUCING A UNIVERSAL GENE THERAPY HOST CELL USING LYMPHOCYTE ACTIVATION (LAG-3) ✓			
(57) Abstract A method to prevent graft rejection of transplanted cells, tissues or organs without general immunosuppression is described. The method employs a newly discovered protein, LAG-3. When allogeneic or xenogeneic cells are engineered to express LAG-3 on their surface and transplanted, immune destruction of the implanted cell, tissue or organ is prevented, while the host's immune system remains functional. A particular application of this method allows the preparation of a universal gene therapy host cell expressing LAG-3 on its surface for protection from graft rejection by a host's immune system.			